



Southern California Association of Governments

Human Resources

818 West 7th Street, 12th Floor, Los Angeles, California 90017 • (213) 236-1910 • www.scag.ca.gov

Regional Planner, Comprehensive Planning, #387 Compass Blueprint (Limited Term)

Senior/Associate/Assistant Regional Planner

Senior: \$64,666 - \$84,066; Associate: \$58,787 - \$76,423; Assistant: \$50,428 - \$65,556 annual

Open Until Filled. First Review of Applications: Monday, October 5, 2009

THE POSITION

There are two at-will limited term positions with an assignment for two years. The positions may be extended beyond two years depending upon available funding. The positions may be filled at any of the three levels of Regional Planner. This is a flexibly staffed classification. Individuals hired at the Assistant or Associate level may advance to the next level without competition, once the competencies have been met and upon recommendation of their supervisor.

The employees will work under the direction of the Comprehensive Planning Division Manager and function as a Regional Planner for studies and projects funded by the California Blueprint Grant. The position's duties will focus on the regional land use/housing and transportation connection as it is applied to regional planning initiatives and local government implementation.

These positions provide an extraordinary opportunity to become involved in the State's most important initiative to improve housing and transportation choices and conduct scenario planning for more efficient land use patterns throughout California. SCAG was awarded the largest Blueprint grant for any MPO in California. SCAG will use these resources in conjunction with its Compass Growth Visioning program to assist individual communities to find unique and effective solutions to local planning problems focusing on the land use/housing/ transportation connection.

IDEAL CANDIDATE QUALITIES

- Demonstrable expertise in public outreach and consensus building
- Excellent interpersonal skills
- Effective verbal and written communication skills
- Excellent presentation and public speaking skills
- Strategic and creative thinker
- Adaptable and flexible worker
- Knowledge of local and government organization
- Knowledge of transit and public transportation planning principles and their integration with land use and housing planning
- Politically astute, with experience in dealing with elected officials
- Ability to analyze and interpret technical data and develop public policy

ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS

- As a part of the team, assess the potential for transit oriented development through redevelopment investment analysis supporting local infill strategies and transportation affordability;
- Evaluate land use, transportation and Greenhouse Gas performance measures, and incentives to promote development in Compass 2% Strategy growth opportunity areas;
- Perform technical and policy research and analysis for Blueprint and its application for improving mobility while creating housing opportunities;
- Supervise and/or assist with the supervision of technical consultants and provide technical direction and functional supervision to subordinate staff;
- Assist in the administration of consultant contacts and grant filing requirements.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS

Education: Equivalent to a Bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university with major course work in urban planning, policy analysis, political science, engineering, economics or a related field. Transportation/land use/housing planning emphasis is highly desirable. A Master's degree may substitute for one year of required experience.

Experience: Assistant: One year of urban or regional planning or policy experience. **Associate:** Two years of professional urban or regional planning experience that includes economic forecasting and trend analysis. **Senior:** Four years of professional urban or regional planning experience.

Knowledge of: Transportation, housing, and land use planning principles; research methods and sources of information related to transit, urban transportation development, and planning; government organizations, functions, and operating methods; policy development; applicable laws and regulations; principles of economics or transportation planning; methods and techniques of project management.

Ability to: Analyze and compile policy-level and technical information; work independently and in a team environment; convene disparate groups, identify options and achieve consensus; adapt to multiple task and/or project schedules in a dynamic planning environment; plan and coordinate multi-disciplinary projects; interpret regional transportation planning

and housing programs to the general public and to member agencies and investigate planning problems.

APPLICATION AND SELECTION PROCEDURE

Applicants **must** submit a completed SCAG application **and** resume to:

Southern California Association of Governments

Attn: Human Resources Office
818 West 7th Street, 12th Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90017
(213) 236-1910
(213) 630-1493 fax
www.scag.ca.gov

Applications will be accepted on a continuous basis until SCAG's needs are met. This recruitment may close at any time without prior notice.

The most qualified applicants will be invited to participate in the selection process based on the application and resume submitted. Applicants must clearly demonstrate through their application materials that they meet the qualifications listed above. The selection process may consist of an application screening, oral presentation, and oral board interview.

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

- Before employment, applicants will be required to provide documentation that verifies their proof of eligibility to work in the United States.
- Reference checking will be done prior to hire. A thorough background check including a review of criminal history, DMV report, pre-employment physical, alcohol and drug-screening, and financial history may be conducted for certain classifications.
- Employees in limited term assignments serve no probationary period and do not accrue seniority. This is an at-will assignment and employees can be discharged at any time.

EMPLOYEE PROGRAMS AND BENEFITS

- **Insurance Coverage:** Employees may choose from two HMO and two PPO CalPERS health plans and two dental plans. SCAG contributes \$800/month towards insurance premiums with the cost difference paid out in cash. Life insurance, in the amount of \$50,000 is provided by SCAG. Short term and long term disability insurance plans are provided by SCAG.
- **Retirement:** Employees become members of the California Public Employees' Retirement System (CalPERS) 2% @ 55 plan. SCAG pays the employee's 7% contribution. ICMA and MetLife 457 deferred compensation plans are available. Employees do not pay into Social Security.
- **Holidays:** A total of 13 paid holidays – 9 designated and 4 floating – are provided annually.
- **Vacation:** Ten to twenty days per year, depending on length of experience.
- **Sick Leave:** Employees earn sick leave at the rate of one day per month.
- **Health, Dependent Care, and Parking Reimbursement Account:** A tax-exempt savings plan is offered to pay eligible expenses associated with health, dependent care, and parking.
- **Rideshare/Transportation Incentive Program:** SCAG pays up to \$155 towards monthly bus pass, vanpool, or

Metrolink, \$35 per month for ridesharing. In order to receive this benefit, employees must use one of the listed options at least 13 days per month.

- **Flexible Time/Modified Work Week:** Some employees may work a modified 9-80 work schedule, with every other Friday off. SCAG offers a flexible work schedule to allow employees some flexibility on daily work hours.
- **Other Benefits:** SCAG offers credit union membership in the E-Central Credit Union. Employees may have their paychecks automatically deposited. A tuition reimbursement program is offered to employees.

THE ORGANIZATION

The Southern California Association of Governments (SCAG) is a regional planning agency and a Council of Governments, established in 1965. SCAG works to develop long-range policies and action plans to address issues of regional and sub-regional concern and to help local agencies meet Federal and State planning mandates. SCAG serves as a center for information exchange on a broad range of transportation, growth management, environmental, infrastructure, and institutional issues. The SCAG region includes six counties, one hundred eighty-seven cities, 38,000 square miles and a population of over 15 million. For more information on SCAG, please visit our website at www.scag.ca.gov.

SCAG is located in bustling downtown Los Angeles. Los Angeles (LA) is located on the beautiful California Coast, and offers a year-round Mediterranean climate. The area is known for its cultural venues, sports centers, garment, and jewelry districts, high-rise buildings, shopping, tourist attractions, fine restaurants, zoos, and museums. It is home to such professional sports organizations as the LA Lakers, Clippers, Sparks, Kings, and Dodgers. Downtown LA is easily accessible by Metrolink train, underground Metro, and bus.

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

SCAG is an equal employment opportunity employer. All personnel policies and programs are administered without regards to race, color, religion, political belief, age, national origin, sex, disability, cultural background, or sexual orientation. If you require assistance to participate in this recruitment, please call the Human Resources Office at (213) 236-1931.